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Vietnam

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification

FAIRS Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

This report reflects only minimal changes from the previous year's report, and provides a summary of the documents Vietnam requires for food and agricultural products exported from the United States to Vietnam. Sample export certificates and links are included in the Appendix.

Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required By Government (Matrix):

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
All Processed Food Items	1.1 Certificate of GMP, HACCP, or equivalent	No specific attestation. A certificate issued by a competent authority indicating the wholesomeness of the product and manufacturing processes that meets GMP, HACCP or equivalent.	Food safety and hygiene	MOH/VFA
	1.2 Certificate of Analysis (test results) - CA	Lab test results for the product, issued by either a manufacturer or an independent lab-testing agency for principal ingredients, quality inhibitors, and hygiene standards.	Food quality and standards	MOH/VFA
2) Special Foods / Functional Foods	2.1 Certificate of GMP or HACCP or equivalent	No specific attestation. A certificate issued by a competent authority indicating the wholesomeness of the product and manufacturing processes that meets GMP, HACCP or equivalent.	Food safety and hygiene	MOH/VFA
	2.2 Certificate of Analysis (test results) - CA	A lab test of the product issued by either a manufacturer or an independent lab-testing agency for principal ingredients, quality inhibitors, and hygienic standards.	Food quality and standards	MOH/VFA
	2.3 Results of Clinical Test	Application of such food on targeted group is to support the body operation; to safely improve health; to reduce pathogen dangers and to provide medically- nutritious value	Food supplemental value functioned to improve human health	MOH/VFA
3) Special Foods / Nutritious Foods For Infants	3.1 Certificate of GMP or HACCP, or equivalent	No specific attestation. A certificate issued by competent authority indicating the wholesomeness of the product and manufacturing process that meets GMP, HACCP or equivalent.	Food safety and hygiene	MOH/VFA
	3.2 Certificate of Analysis (test results) - CA	A lab test of the product issued by either a manufacturer or an independent lab-testing agency for principal ingredients, quality inhibitors, hygiene standards.	Food quality and standards	MOH/VFA
	3.3 Certificate of Free Sale (Health Certificate)	A certificate by a competent government agency indicating that the product has nutritious value for infants and is suitable for use by a certain age group or targeted children	Food safety, quality and standards	MOH/VFA
4) Special Foods / GM Foods and Irradiated Foods	4.1 Certificate of GMP or HACCP or equivalent	No specific attestation. A certificate issued by a competent authority indicating wholesomeness of the product and manufacturing processes that meet GMP, HACCP or equivalent.	Food safety and hygiene	MOH/VFA

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	4.2 Certificate of Analysis (test results) - CA	A lab test of the product issued by either a manufacturer or an independent lab-testing agency for principal ingredients, quality inhibitors and hygiene standards.	Food quality and standards	MOH/VFA
	4.3 Certificate of Free Sale	A certificate avowing that the foods are circulated as safe for human consumption in U.S. territory.	Food safety	MOH/VFA
5) Food Ingredients/Additives	5.1 Certificate of GMP or HACCP, or equivalent	No specific attestation. A certificate by a competent authority certifying the wholesomeness of the product and manufacturing processes that meets GMP, HACCP or equivalent.	Food safety and hygiene	MOH/VFA
	5.2 Certificate of Free Sale (Health Certificate)	No specific attestation. Any statements that indicate products are safe for human consumption and freely sold in the United States	Food safety and hygiene	MOH/VFA
	5.2 Certificate of Analysis (test results) - CA	A lab test of the product issued by either a manufacturer or an independent lab-testing agency for principal ingredients, quality inhibitors and hygiene standards.	Food quality and standards	MOH/VFA
6) Feed Ingredients	6.1 Certificate of GMP, or equivalent	No specific attestation. Any statements that indicate the wholesomeness of the product and manufacturing process that meets Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) or equivalent.	Product quality	MARD/DLP
	6.2 Certificate of Free Sale	The products are freely sold and used in the United States.	Product quality and safety	MARD/DLP
	6.3 Test results	Test results issued by either a GMP-certified manufacturer or a competent government agency for principal quality inhibitors and hygiene standards.	Product quality, safety and hygiene	MARD/DLP
7) Plants and Plant Products with Minimum Processing (Plant Genetics including Seeds, Fruit, Vegetable, Grains, Oilseeds, Forest Products, etc.)	Phytosanitary Certificate	Plant Protection Quarantine Form 577 from APHIS certifying that the plant and plant products have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests and conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party including those for regulated non-quarantine pests	Plant health protection	MARD/ PPD
8) Processed Plant Products	Export Certificate	Plant Protection Quarantine PPQ Form 578 affirming that based upon inspection of submitted samples and/or by virtue of processing received, the plant product described are believed to be free from injurious plant pests.	Plant Health Protection	MARD/PPD
9) Animals and Animal	Health	Veterinary Service VS Form 16-	Animal health	MARD/DAH

Products, except Animal Genetics, Meat and Poultry Products	Certificate	4 from APHIS	protection and human health protection	
9.1) Animal By-Product	Health Certificate (export Certificate)	Veterinary Service VS Form 16- 4 from APHIS with additional declaration as Section III/3 and /4 below	Animal health protection and human health.	MARD/DAH
9.2) Dairy Products	Certificate of GMP, of HACCP, or equivalent	Issued by Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), sample form is attached in the appendix.	Food safety and hygiene	MARD/DAH MOH/VFA
	Health Certificate	APHIS/Veterinary Service Form VS 16-4.	Animal Health Protection and human health	MARD/DAH
	Certificate of Free Sale	The products are freely sold and used in the United States.	Product quality and safety	MARD/DLP MARD/DAH MOH/VFA
	Certificate of Analysis (test results) - CA	A lab test of the product issued by either a manufacturer or an independent lab-testing agency, for principal ingredients, quality inhibitors and hygienic standards.	Food quality and standards	MOH/VFA
10) Animal Genetics	Health Certificate	Veterinary Service VS Form 17- 140 from APHIS (United States Origin Health Certificate). Vietnamese certification requirements for specific products are described in section III/4.	Animal Health Protection	MARD/DAH
	Certificate of Inspection of Export Animals	Veterinary Service VS Form 17- 37 from APHIS.	Animal Health Protection	MARD/DAH
	Animal Pedigree document	Animal pedigree document Issued by either a competent government agency or National Breeder Association	Genetic Quality	MARD/DLP
11) Meat and Poultry Products	Export Certificate	Federal Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS)'s export certificate (FSIS Form 9060-5).	Product quality, safety and hygiene	MARD/DAH
		Refer to Section III, No. 1 for certification remarks on FSIS form 9060-5 for beef and beef products.		
11.1) Swine Offal Products (for Heart, Liver and Kidneys only)	Export Certificate	Federal Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS)'s export certificate (FSIS Form 9060-5).	Product quality, safety and hygiene	MARD/DAH
12) Marine and Fish Products	Health Certificate (Export Certificate)	A declaration or statement by Federal Government Agencies (FDA, DOC/NONA) that the product is safe for human consumption	Food safety and hygiene	MARD/NAFIQAD

Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

All details for purposes of specific export certificates have been previously delineated in Section I.

Section III. Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificate(s)

1) Export requirements for meat and poultry products, including beef and beef products.

Please refer to the FSIS Export Library for the most updated information on meat and poultry export requirements for Vietnam:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&_Policies/Vietnam_Requirements/index.asp

For beef and beef products, the following statements must be included in the "Remarks" section of the FSIS Form 9060-5:

- The meat was derived from cattle less than thirty (30) months of age.
- The meat was derived from federally certified slaughter and processing facilities, operating under supervision of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).
- The cattle from which the beef and beef meat products were derived were not subjected to a stunning process, prior to slaughter, with a device injecting compressed air or gas into the cranial cavity or to a pithing process.
- The meat was derived from cattle that were officially given an ante and post-mortem inspection by FSIS inspection officials, and were not suspect or confirmed BSE cases.
- The beef and beef meat products were not derived from the following specified risk materials: the brain, skull, eyes, trigeminal ganglia, spinal cord, vertebral column (excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, and the wings of the sacrum) and dorsal root ganglia and the tonsils and distal ileum of the small intestine of any cattle regardless of age.
- The meat does not contain advanced recovery meat or mechanically separated meat.
- The cattle from which the product was derived were not fed meat and bone meal or greaves of ruminant origin.
- 2) Export certificate for Swine Offal Products:
- Format: regular FSIS form 9060-5
- Vietnam and the United States do not have an agreement on special language put in the Health Certificate for exports of US swine offal (heart, kidney, liver) to Vietnam.
- 3) Health certificate (export certificate) for Porcine Meat and Bone Meal and Poultry By-products except porcine/poultry spray dried blood meal.
- Format: VS Form 16-4 from APHIS (See attached form in the Appendix I)
- Additional Certification Statement:

If the product is of poultry origin, the birds from which the product was derived originated from a zone free of highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza and Newcastle disease.

This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [company/manufacturer's name] verifying the accuracy of the following statements:

- The product, [identify type of product, to include species, e.g. poultry by-product meal] is of U.S. origin and is intended to be used in aqua, poultry and swine feeds as well as pet food.
- The product was manufactured in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations and meets the requirements of the United States for domestic sale and use in animal feed.
- The product was subjected to a dry heat treatment at a minimum temperature of 118°C (245°F) for a minimum of 40 minutes; or a continuous hydrolyzing process at a minimum temperature of 122°C (250°F) for a minimum of 15 minutes with a minimum pressure of 55 lbs/square inch; or an equivalent method [describe] to achieve commercial sterilization. [Company/manufacturer to include applicable processing method]
- The product was manufactured using processing times and temperatures adequate to destroy microbiological pathogens of concern, including Salmonella, and result in a product fit for animal consumption.
- The product was manufactured under sanitary conditions, including precautions to prevent contamination of the product with pathogenic agents following processing.
- The product does not contain ruminant ingredients.

- 4) Health Certificate (Export Certificate) for Porcine Spray Dried Blood Meal and Poultry Spray Dried Blood Meal
- Format: VS Form 16-4 from APHIS (See attached form in the Appendix I)
- Additional Certification Statement:

If the product is of poultry origin, the birds from which the product was derived originated from a zone free of highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza and Newcastle disease.

This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [company/manufacturer name] verifying the accuracy of the following statements:

- The product, { Porcine Spray Dried Blood Meal/Poultry Spray Dried Blood Meal} is U.S. origin and is intended to be used in aqua, poultry and swine feeds as well as pet food.
- The product was manufactured in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations and meets the requirements of the United States for domestic sale and use in animal feed.
- The product was processed in a manner designed to achieve commercial sterilization
- The product was manufactured using processing times and temperatures adequate to destroy microbiological pathogens of concern, including Salmonella, and result in a product fit for animal consumption.
- The product was manufactured under sanitary conditions, including precautions to prevent contamination of the product with pathogenic agents following processing.
- The product does not contain ruminant ingredients.
- 5) Vietnam required health certificate statements for animals exported from USA to Vietnam (Protocols on exporting animals to Vietnam):
- . For cattle: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/iregs/animals/vm bo.pdf
- . For bovine semen: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/iregs/animals/vm_bov_se_1205.pdf
- . For swine: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/iregs/animals/vm_po.pdf
- . For swine semen: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/iregs/animals/vm_po_se.pdf

Section IV. Government Certificate's Legal Entry Requirements

- a. The original export certificate needs to accompany the product at the time of entry.
- b. In general, the export certificate is only valid for the consignment of the products.
- c. If a supplier and manufacturer is GMP certified (or HACCP/ISO certified), Vietnam will accept a Suppliers or Manufacturers Test Results as a proof of compliance.
- d. In most of the cases, Vietnam accepts a U.S. State issued certificate of free sale and export certificates.

Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements

- Special warning regarding Certificate of Origin:

Certificates of Origin (C/O) should be prepared properly to avoid Customs determination of 50% surcharge on the total import duty of the product due to unknown origin of the product.

According to Circular No.09/2000/TTLT-BTA-TCHQ, dated April 17, 2000, Certificates of Origin (C/O) must be issued by competent agencies as prescribed by the exporting country. These agencies usually include organizations such as the

Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Finance, and other organizations designated by the government of the exporting country, such as Chambers of Commerce, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, etc. If the C/O is issued by the manufacturer, it must be certified by the concerned competent agency or organization of the issuing country.

In brief, Customs prefers Certificate of Origin issued by a US State Chamber of Commerce.

The Certificate of Origin (C/O) submitted to the Vietnam Customs office must be an original and have the following contents:

- The issuance number of the C/O.
- Name and Address of the exporter, the exporting country.
- Name and Address of the importer, the importing country.
- Information on transportation of the goods.
- The trademark and label; quantity and type of packs; description of goods.
- Weight
- The goods origin
- The enterprise requesting the C/O issuance (Enterprise's name and date of request for issuance).
- The C/O issuing organization (Name, date of issuance and its stamp)

Certificate of Origin Stamp

Although Customs appears to be acting more reasonably on this point, FAS/Vietnam has had to intervene on behalf of importers in the past when Customs officials refused to accept U.S. certificates of origin that did not have a 'raised' seal or official circular stamp. If the C/O has an oblong or rectangular stamp, Customs may reject the document. In Vietnam, only circular stamps are considered official. Additionally, many U.S. bodies issuing certificates of origin do not clearly stamp the paperwork. If Customs cannot read the stamp – it does no good. Similarly, if the stamp is one that produces a 'raised' seal, it should be legible. FAS/Vietnam may be able to offer assistance to intervene with Customs in instances where C/O documents are under question.

Vietnam assumes the C/O will be issued by a 'relevant' body observing all applicable regulations of the country granting the C/O. A 'relevant' body refers to a Ministry of Trade, Industry, Finance, Customs Office or other organization authorized by the State, such as a Chamber of Commerce or Chamber of Trade. In cases where the C/O is issued by the manufacturer (or on the letterhead of the manufacturer), it should be certified and stamped by the relevant government organization or body in the country of origin.

Accreditation requirements

While nearly all products are allowable for entry into Vietnam, they may be subject to one or more additional requirements/procedures, including an import permit, product registration, and food labeling. Details of these conditions are available in FAIRS 2009 Country Report.

(VM9078)

Both the Department of Livestock Production (DLP) and the Department of Animal Health (DAH) require import permits for imports of feed ingredients and animal products, respectively. Although clearly described on their websites, the procedures for issuance of import permits are still arbitrary.

For the most updated import requirements, exporters should contact interested business partners (importer/buyer) in Vietnam who will apply for an import permit at the appropriate ministry. The import permit will most likely outline the specific requirements.

Appendix I. Electronic Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate

1) Animal and animal products:

The primary role of APHIS/Veterinary Services (APHIS/VS) in the certification of animal products for export is to provide certification about the animal health status of the region of origin of the product. If other certification is required, APHIS/VS may not be the Agency authorized to provide the required export certificate.

Attached is APHIS' Health Certificate for animal and animal products (Form VS 16-4).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Health Certificate

EXPORT CERTIFICATE

Animal Products

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

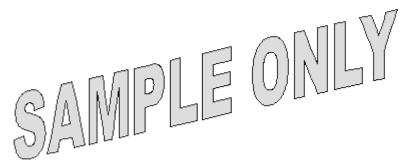
PORT

DATE

AND NO.

This is to certify that rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, hog cholera, swine vesicular disease, African swine fever, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL DECLARATION





		_	
(SIGNATURE of endorsing official)	 (Typed name)	(TITLE of endorsing official)	
DESC	CRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMEN	T	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER	NAME AND ADDRES	S OF CONSIGNEE	

PRODUCT (Quantity, unit of measure and kind)	
IDENTIFICATION	CONVEYANCE

No liability shall attach to the United States Department of Agriculture or to any officer or representative of the Department with respect to this certificate.

VS FORM 16-4

APHIS' United States Origin Health Certificate (Form VS 17-140).

Federal agencies other than APHIS are also involved in providing certificates for the export of animal products. Some examples are indicated below.

1.1. Dairy **Products**

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) of USDA, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are the agencies primarily responsible for the certification of U.S. dairy products exported for human consumption. (APHIS/VS may provide certification in certain circumstances.) Following is a sample AMS certificate:

XXX 0, 0000



To whom it may concern

With regard to: , plant number

For the period to.

This is to certify that:

- The product(s) listed below—hereinafter called "the product"—was manufactured in the United States, in accordance with its laws and regulations
- The product was prepared from pure milk obtained from holdings under official sanitary control
- During preparation of the products a heat treatment has been applied or adequate safeguards have been taken with the aim of avoiding public health hazards arising from pathogenic organisms associated with milk
- The product was manufactured in premises and processing plants inspected and approved by the United States

 Department of Agriculture and subjected to regular audits or inspections
- The product has been subjected to a general surveillance scheme including laboratory tests to validate the microbial and compositional quality

- To the best of our knowledge, the product contains no harmful levels of contaminants and is fit for human consumption
- Identification and description of the goods is the responsibility of the manufacturer or exporter.

Products covered by this letter:

Sincerely,

CARRIE KAYSER

USDA AMS DGB

AMS may be contacted at:

Agricultural Marketing Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture

P.O. Box 96456

Washington, DC 20009

Phone: 202-720-3171 Fax: 202-720-2643

1.2. Meat and meat products; processed egg products

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) of USDA is responsible for export certification of meat and some meat products, as well as processed egg products (pasteurized eggs) for human consumption. Below is a sample FSIS Export Certificate FSIS (form 9060-52)

OF WHOLE	SOMENESS	usc 46), 21 USC 676) and the Pou (1) for an unauthorized or to	nder the Federal Meat Inspection Act. (illry Products Inspection Act. [25: USC 4 whe alteration or misuse of this certific	58 (c) (1), (2), and (5).	
AREA OFFICE	COUNTRY OF DESTIN	ATION	DATE ISSUED	MPC -	33981	
EXPORTED BY (Applicant's name on application military 200 Code)			EST, / PLANT I	PRODUCT EXPORTED FROM: EST. / PLANT NUMBER (If applicable)		
CONSIGNED TO UName and address. TOTAL MARKED NET WEIGHT	TOTAL CONTAINERS			@ SLAUGHTERING PL @ PROCESSING PLAN @ WAREHOUSE @ DOCKSIDE		
		MASKED	T MILLIANTS OF			
PRODUCT AS L	ABELED	WEIGHT OF LOT 1/	NUMBER OF PACKAGES IN LOT 1/	SHIPPING MARKS 1/	EST. / PLA NUMBI ON PROD	
2/As stated by applicant or contracto REMARKS						
☐ I CERTIFY that the m	neat or meat food prodi tion and were found so ons of the Department	und and health	y and that it has	been inspected and par	antemortem ssed as provide	
by law and regulation						
postmortem inspect by law and regulation I CERTIFY that the pure antemortem and po	oultry and poultry prod istmortem inspection a itment of Agriculture a	nd passed in ac	cordance with ap	oplicable laws and regul	lly given an lations of the	
postmortem inspect by law and regulation I CERTIFY that the properties of the prope	istmortem inspection are tment of Agriculture ar OT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY	nd passed in ac nd are wholesc	ordance with ap	oplicable laws and regul uman consumption.	lly given an lations of the	
postmortem inspect by law and regulation in the properties of the Section of the	stmortem inspection at tment of Agriculture al OT VALIO UNLESS SIGNED BY cretary of Agriculture sivable in all courts of the Unit texcuse failure to comply with	nd passed in ac nd are wholesc AN INSPECTOR OF PECTOR AND CIRCUIT ited States as prim th any of the regul	cordance with apome and fit for human MEAT AND POULTRY NUMBER a facie evidence of thatory laws enforced by	pplicable laws and regularized consumption. INSPECTION PROGRAM THE P	lations of the	
postmortem inspect by law and regulation law and law	istmortem inspection all trace of Agriculture all OT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY cretary of Agriculture sivable in all courts of the United	nd passed in ac nd are wholeso AN INSPECTOR OF PECTOR AND CIRCUIT lited States as prim th any of the regul	cordance with apome and fit for human MEAT AND POULTRY NUMBER a facie evidence of thatory laws enforced by	pplicable laws and regularized consumption. INSPECTION PROGRAM THE P	lations of the	

2) Plants and Plant Products

APHIS' Phytosanitary Certificate for plants and plant products (PPQ form 577): http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_exports/downloads/ppq577.pdf

APHIS' Export Certificate (PPQ form 578):

3) Aquatic (Marine and Fish) products

The U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (DOC/NOAA) is the primary agency responsible for providing certification for fish meal, fish oil, and certain other seafood products. The FDA also certifies seafood products, such as blocks of frozen fish. Contact information for these agencies are as follows:

National Marine Fisheries Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

P.O. Drawer 1207

Pascagoaula, MS 39567

Phone: 228-762-7402 ext. 312

Fax: 228-762-9200 Office of Seafood

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

U.S. Food and Drug Administration Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, Room 3C097

College Park, MD 20740-3835

Phone: 301-436-2300

Author Defined:

Report Summary

A variety of U.S. export certificates are required by the Government of Vietnam (GOV) in order to import food and agricultural products into Vietnam. In general, the Vietnam Food Administration (VFA) under the Ministry of Health (MOH) requires a certificate of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) or HACCP for imports of all processed food items and food ingredients. A Certificate of Free Sale (or health certificate) is also required for imports of high-risk foods: namely food ingredients and additives, dairy products and feed products. For processed foods and food ingredients/additives, a certificate of analysis (test results) is also required, but the tests may be done in Vietnam at a much lower cost. The Department of Animal Health (DAH) and the Plant Protection Department (PPD) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) require animal and plant health certificates for imports of plant and plant products and animals and animal products. In particular, for imports of meat and meat products, specific export certificates (health certificate) are required. The Department of Livestock Production (DLP) under MARD requires a certificate of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and a certificate of free sale for imports of all feed ingredients. The National Agro-Forestry-Fishery Quality Assurance Department (NAFIQAD) under MARD requires an export certificate (health certificate) for imports of aquacultural (marine and fish) products.

Abbreviated terms for easy reference:

- GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices)
- HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points)
- ISO (International Standard Organization)
- MOH (Ministry of Health, Vietnam)
- VFA (Vietnam Food Administration)
- MARD (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam)
- DAH (Department of Animal Health, Vietnam)

- PPD (Plant Protection Department, Vietnam)
- DLP (Department of Livestock Production, Vietnam)
- NAFIQAD (National Agro-Forestry-Fishery Quality Assurance Department, Vietnam)
- APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service)
- FSIS (Food Safety Inspection Service)
- AMS (Agricultural Marketing Service)
- DOC (Department of Commerce)
- NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)